

## The Herald and News

ELBERT H. AULL, Editor.

WM. P. HOUSEAL, Proprietors.

NEWBERRY, S. C.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1889.

BE PATIENT AND WAIT.

It is stated on the authority of General

Rosen that a contract has been

made for the building of two hundred

and fifty miles of the Three C's railroad

from Rutherford, N. C., to Pocahontas

County, West Virginia, for two and

a half millions of dollars. We hope the

statement is true and that the road will

be built; and the success to the present

time of those interested in it, in the

face of immense obstacles, is encourag-

ing. But observation and experience

teach us to withhold our whooping over

such matters until we see more done

and hear less talk of.

True, it would do to whom too

much over these things. We hope the

rumor is true, and we would like to see

work begun on the Augusta and New-

berry end of this great railroad enter-

prise. It was our understanding that the

Act which the Legislature passed the

last year, passed the township boards, that

work would be commenced on the

Augusta and Newberry part of this

road within two weeks; in fact, we un-

derstood that the contract for finish-

ing the grading had all been made, and

that as soon as the Act in question re-

ceived the signature of the Governor,

work would be commenced with all

despatch. The Act was passed but we

have heard nothing of the road

since. We suppose now, however,

everything is waiting for the decision

of the Supreme Court, as to the validity

of this validating Act.

Well, it requires a good deal

of patience in this, as in everything else,

and we can do nothing but wait we

suppose. The decision of the Supreme

Court may be delayed for the next year

or more.

ARE THE OLD PARTIES DIVIDING?

There seems to be considerable trouble

and some discord in both the Re-

publican and Democratic parties. The

Republicans have issued an earnest ap-

peal through the New York Graphic

for harmony within the party. There

seems to be considerable disaffection

among Republican leaders at present.

There are too many who are trying to

lead and to satisfy their personal am-

bition in securing places for themselves

or their friends.

On Monday it was endeavored to hold

a caucus of the Democratic party in

Washington and when it was found

that there would be some kicking

among some of the representatives

from tobacco States agreeing to a policy

desired by a majority, it was decided

not to hold the caucus.

The trouble with the Democrats is in

regard to the tariff and internal re-

venue. The Greenville News thinks the

Democratic party is split, and that the

entering wedge has been driven. The

Democratic party has stood the test for

a long time and we do not believe it is

going to pieces yet. Still the majorities

in all parties must have respect for

the opinions and honest convictions of

the minorities, otherwise they will

split. The majority must rule, but they

must have some regard also for the in-

terest of the minority.

Well, do these things mean that the

old parties are dividing, and will new

ones be organized? What are the

signs of the times?

DEVOTION TO PARTY.

"Devotion to party, whatever may

be the necessity for it in sections of the

country, is becoming one of the most

fertile forces in the general demoraliza-

tion of our people. The law that all

things are lawful within the party is

working in the extreme. It cherishes

## A HORROR IN HARTFORD.

An Explosion Levels the Park Central

Hotel—Twenty Persons Killed—

Thirteen Persons Killed.

HARTFORD, Conn., February 18.—

Hartford was visited to-day by the

most appalling disaster in its history.

The Park Central Hotel, a handsome

five-story building on the corner of

High and Allyn streets, was leveled to

the ground at 5 o'clock this morning,

by the explosion of the boiler, which

was from the basement under the

office. The explosion was heard

all over the city, and a moment later

came the strokes of the great fire alarm

bell, followed by a second alarm.

When the firemen reached the scene

the stories were leveled to a con-

fused mass of brick, splintered wood-

work and wrecked water and gas pip-

ing. Above this rose a great cloud of

smoke, and it was evident that the

ruins were everywhere on fire. Twenty

strawmen were turned on them, and this

kept down the flames, but the suffoca-

ting smoke and ice-cold water were as

fatal as the fire to the guests who were

hurled from their beds in their night

clothes.

Nearly all the help employed in the

hotel were saved. They occupy sleep-

ing apartments in the annex, which

was only partially wrecked by the ex-

plosion. Some forced their way out

of the building, but many were helped

out by the firemen. The entire main

story of the hotel is gone, only a pile of

brick and timbers remaining. The scenes

about the ruins were horrible.

SHOCKING SCENES.

In the center of the spot where the

building stood were a mass of men, who

were looking for the bodies of the

victims. They finally fell back in

the flames and perished in plain sight

of the spectators. The child cried for

help, but the men and women uttered

no word. Every body was in a state of

panic. The firemen were unable to

reach the victims in each other's

arms they met death bravely. The

shrieks of another woman caused the

blood of the spectators to turn cold

as they saw a young lady lying with

her body half across a beam with a

look of agony on her face. She was

partially dead and she dropped out of

sight. A few dead or dying persons

were taken from the edge of the debris,

however, within an hour of the explosion.

THE FORCE OF THE EXPLOSION.

The force of the explosion was such

that it threw a bed, with a sleeping

woman on it, far into the street, where

it landed with a crash. By 9 a. m. the

flames were so far subdued that the

rescuers were enabled to get at some

of the victims. Some were pinned

beneath heavy timbers, upon which

rested masses of debris. The work of

rescue was extremely hazardous.

CAUSE OF THE CATASTROPHE.

The catastrophe is generally supposed

to have been caused by the boiler, which

was built on a "made" ground. The

railroads have furnished their

forces of laborers to build the road,

and the work of searching for bodies

is now going forward. At 10 a. m. the

military call was sounded on the fire

bell, calling out the military companies

to assist in preserving order and in the

work of rescue.

RESCUE OF THE LADY AND HER

WIFE.

At about 1 o'clock, amid enthusias-

tic cheers from the crowd, Landford

Ketchum and his wife were rescued.

The wife was found in a room, with

her arms outstretched, as if in prayer,

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